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A DECLARATION TO ALL THE WORLD OF *Our Faith, and what we Believe.*

And this is written that all people upon earth may know by whom, and how we are ſaved, and hopes for eternal life; & what we believe concerning God, Chriſt, & the Spirit, and of the things that are eternal, appertaining to all mankind to know & believe.

Concerning God, Chriſt, and the Spirit, this we believe.

FIrſt, That there is onely one true God, who is a Spirit, and his preſence filleth heaven and earth, and he is Eternal and Everlaſting, the Creator and Preſerver of all things, and Heaven and Earth, and all things therein, by him were framed and brought forth, and all things remain unto this day by his Power, and whatſoever he will in Heaven and Earth, he brings to paſſe by his Word and Power. And we believe that this God onely is, and ought to be feared, loved, obeyed and worſhipped by all creatures, and no other thing beſides him in Heaven or Earth; and we believe, That his Worſhip, and Obedience, and Fear, and Love, is to be given in ſpirit, even in what his own Spirit moveth and leadeth his people unto. And we believe his true Worſhip, required and accepted of him, is not by the Traditions of men, in outward obſervances, or ſet-dayes, or places, but is worſhipped only in ſpirit & truth, without reſpect of time, places, or things; and that none can worſhip him in righteouſneſſe but his children who are born of his ſpirit, and are led and guided thereby. And we believe that this God hath given his

on Christ Jesus into the Word, a free-gift unto the whole World, and that every man that cometh into the World is lightned by him, that every man might believe, and be saved. And we believe that he is given into the World, and no Nation, Countrey, or People excepted, but unto all mankind is he given of God, and hath lightned them, and every man through the World, that believeth in, and receiveth Christ, who is the VVisdom and Power of the Father, shall be saved with eternal salvation; and every one that believeth not in him, shall be damned, and shall possesse everlasting misery. And we believe that *Salvation*, *Justification*, and *Sanctification*, is onely in him, and wrought by him, and no other; for there is no other Name given under Heaven, but him alone, by which salvation is. And we believe all that receives him, and believes in him are reconciled to God, and are made alive to God, to live to him in all things, and doth receive the forgiveneſſe of sins, and are set free from all unrighteousnes, and from the body of sin and death, and hath the VVitneſſe of the Spirit in them; and the Spirit of the Father they have received, and it witnesseth in them of the Father and of the Son, and of the things that belong unto their peace; and it is the earnest of the Inheritance, and the Seal of the promise of eternal life; and by it are the deep things of God revealed to mankind; and by it the Father and the Son dwells in the Saints, and by it have they fellowship one with another; and the Father, Son, and Spirit are one: And this we faithfully believe.

Again, Concerning Christ, VVe believe that he is one with the Father, and was with him before the VVorld was; and what the Father worketh, it is by the Son, for he is the Arm of Gods *Salvation*, and the very *Power* and *Wisdom* of the Creator, and was, is, and is to come, without beginning or end. And we believe that all the Prophets gave testimony of him, and that he was made manifest in *Judea* and *Jerusalem*, and did the VVork of the Father, and was persecuted of the *Jews*, and was crucified by his enemies, and that he was buryed, & rose again, according to the Scriptures. And we believe

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he is now aſcended on High, and exalted at the right hand of the Father for evermore; & that he is glorified with the ſame glory that he had before the VVorld was; and that even the ſame that came down from Heaven, is aſcended up to Heaven; and the ſame that deſcended, is he that aſcended.

And we believe even he that was dead, is alive, and lives for evermore; and that he cometh, and ſhall come again to judge the whole VVorld with righteouſneſſe, and all people with equity, and ſhall give to every man according to his deeds at the day of Judgement, when all ſhall ariſe to condemnation or juſtification, he that hath done good ſhall receive life, and he that hath done evil, everlaſting condemnation. And we believe he is to be waited for in ſpirit, to be known after the Spirit, as he was before the VVorld was, and that is the knowledge unto eternal life; which all that believe in him doth receive, and he ſubdues death, and deſtroyes him that hath the power of it, and reſtoreth from death to life, and quickneth by his Spirit all that the Father hath given him; and we believe ſuch he juſtifieth and ſanctifieth, and ſuch are taught of him; but he condemns all that believe not, but continues in unbelief, and are not taught of him: And this we faithfully believe.

And we believe that unto all people upon the face of the whole earth, is a time and day of viſitation given, that they may return and be ſaved by Chriſt Jeſus, who is given of the Father to call the worſt of men to repentance, and the moſt ungodly of ſinners are convinced by him of their ungodly deeds, that they might believe, and be converted, and ſaved. And we believe herein is the love of God manifeſted to all mankind, and that none is ſhut out by him before they were born into the VVorld; but unto all men is a Viſitation given, and they that do periſh, it is becauſe they do not believe in Chriſt; & deſtruction is of a mans ſelf, but ſalvation is of God, through believing in his Son, who takes away ſin, and renewveth into his own Image, that they may become Heirs with him. And we believe that there is a Crown of eternal glory, and an Inheritance of eternal life to be injoyed

for evermore by all that believe and are choſen of God, and that there is everlaſting misery and deſtruction to be poſſeſſed by all that believe not, but continues in the ſtate of reprobation, and are not changed from the Wayes of ſin and death, but walks after the wayes of their own hearts luſts, fulfilling the Will of the fleſh, in the evil of this World, and follows not Chriſt the Light of the World, that they may be ſaved; and we believe upon all ſuch the Wrath of God abideth, and that they have no part in the Inheritance of God. And we believe that it is onely he that is born again of the Spirit, and that walks after the Spirit, who is changed from death to life, and who is redeemed out of the World and all its Wayes, ſuch onely muſt inherit the kingdom of God, and they onely have right thereunto, and none beſides, even they that are waſhed and clenſed from all unrighteouſneſſe by the blood of Jeſus, by which their ſins are remitted, for his blood clenſeth from all unrighteouſneſs and ſin, they that walk in the light which Chriſt Jeſus hath lightned the World withall.

And we believe that the Saints upon Earth may receive forgiveneſs of ſins, and may be perfectly freed from the body of ſin and death, and in Chriſt may be perfect, and without ſin, and may have Victory over all temptations by faith in Chriſt Jeſus. And we believe every Saint that is called of God, ought to preſs after perfection, and to overcome the Devil and all his temptations upon earth; and we believe they that wait for it ſhall obtain it, and ſhall be preſented without ſin in the Image of the Father, and ſuch walks not after the fleſh, but after the ſpirit, and are in covenant with God, & their ſins are blotted out & remembred no more, for they ceaſe to commit ſin, being born of the ſeed of God. And we believe the Goſpel of Chriſt is the Power of God unto ſalvation, & that it ought to be preached freely unto all people, and Chriſt to be held forth to all mankind by the Miniſtry ſent of him. And we believe this Miniſtry is received by the gift of the Holy Ghoſt, and all they that receive it, are lawfully called to the Miniſtry, and they may preach the Goſpel

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of Christ freely, as they have received it freely; and this Ministry is not of man, but of God, and is made powerful to the converting of sinners, and to the bringing of people to God, and to the knowledge of his Wayes. And we do not believe that any man is a Minister of Christ without the gift of the Holy Ghost, or that the Gospel can be received by natural learning or education. And we believe such as preach for hire, and hath hire for preaching, are not the lawful called Ministers of the Gospel of Christ, such as are proud, and high minded, and covetous men, who doth not profit the people at all, such have run, and were never sent of Christ, who calleth by his spirit into the Work of the Ministry; and as every one hath received the gift of that his Spirit, so he may administer to others.

Concerning Rulers and Governors; We believe that there ought to be Rulers and Governors in every Nation, City, Countrey, or Town, and they ought to be such men as feareth God, and hateth every evil Way, who will judge for God, and not for man, and will judge righteously, equally, and justly, and will give true and sound judgement unto all men, without bribery, or respect of persons, not regarding the rich above the poor, but being a praise unto all that do well, and a terror to all evil-doers whatsoever, having knowledge in the pure Law of God, and themselves continually exercised therein. And we believe that every Law of man ought to be grounded upon the Law of God, pure Reason and Equity being the foundation thereof, that Gods Witness in every man may answer to it; and the Law ought to be known unto all people before transgression be charged or punished in any man. And we believe that every Transgression ought to be punished according to its nature, and that the punishment exceed not the greatnesse of the transgression; neither ought any Transgressor to escape unpunished; neither ought any upon false suspition or jealousies to be caused to suffer without the testimony of true men, or the confession of the party. And we believe that the Executors of the Law ought to be just men, and not given to pride, drunkenness, or any other

other evil whatsoever, and ought to be chosen every year, or otherwise, by the common consent of all people, and that no man be stopped of his free choice. And we believe that all Governors and Rulers ought to be accountable to the people, and to the next proceeding Rulers, for all their actions, which may be inquired into upon occasion; and that the chiefest of the Rulers be subject under the Law, and punishable by it if they be transgressors, as well as the poorest of the people: And thus true Judgement and Justice will be brought forth in the earth, and all that do well will have praise, and live in rest and peace and all evil-doers whatsoever may stand in awe, and be afraid of God, and just men, and the execution of good Laws.

Concerning Religion; We believe that it is onely the Spirit of the Lord that makes men truly religious, and that no man ought to be compelled to, or from any exercise or practise in Religion, by any outward Law, or Power, but every man ought to be left free, as the Lord shall perswade his own mind in doing, or leaving undone this, or the other practise in Religion; and every man of what profession in Religion soever, ought to be protected in peace, provided himself be a man of peace, not seeking the wrong of any mans person or Estate.

And we believe that to reprove false Opinions, and unsound Doctrines and Principles, seeking to convince them that oppose themselves, by exhortation, or sharp reproof, by Word or Writing, ought not to be counted a breach of the Peace; or to strive about the things of the Kingdom of God, by men of contrary minds or judgements, this ought not to be punishable by the Magistrates and their Laws; for we believe that the outward *Law* and *Powers* of the earth is onely to preserve mens persons & estates, and not to preserve men in Opinions; neither ought the Law of the Nation to be laid upon mens consciences, to bind them to, or from such a judgement or practise in Religion. And we believe that Christ is, and ought onely to be Lord and Exciser of mens consciences, and his Spirit onely must lead into all truth.

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And we believe that obedience and ſubjection in the Lord belongs to Superiors, and that Subjects ought to obey them in the Lord that have Rule over them; and that children ought to obey their Parents, and Wives their Husbands, and Servants their Maſters in all things, which is according to God, which ſtands in the exerciſe of a pure conſcience towards God: But where Rulers, Parents, or Maſters, or any other, commandeth or requireth ſubjection in any thing which is contrary to God, or not according to him, in ſuch cauſes all people are free, and ought to obey God rather then man; and we believe that herein God will juſtifie them, being guided and led by his ſpirit in all that which is good, and out of all that which is evil.

Again, We believe concerning Election and Reprobation, that there is a ſtate of Election, and a ſtate of Reprobation; a ſtate choſen of God, and a ſtate rejected of God, and that all mankind is in one of theſe ſtates; all that are elected, are elected in Chriſt, and all that are out of him are in the ſtate reprobate, bringing forth fruits of death and darkneſs, being a child of wrath and diſobedience, in the alienation and ſeparation from God, in the tranſgreſſion, unreconciled to God, the enmity ruling in the heart, being in the fall, and not reſtored to God again, but ignorant of his power, and of his Wiſdom, having his underſtanding darkned that he cannot ſee nor perceive the things that are eternal; and in this condition his beſt Works are ſin, and in whatſoever he doth he cannot be accepted with God, for he is dead to God, and alive to all evil, bringing forth all his Works out of that ground which is curſed. This is the condition of all mankind upon the face of the Earth, in the firſt *Adam*, and this is the ſtate of Reprobation, and all that abide herein are rejected of God, and ſhall never inherit eternal life, but goes into perdition; yet have all ſuch a day of Viſitation, that they may return out of the ſtate of Reprobation; but hating knowledge, and deſpiſing the love of God, they continue in the ſtate reprobate, and the Wrath of God abides upon them: But they that are choſen of God are delivered from Wrath,

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for they believe in the light, and becomes children of the light, and are renewed in mind and heart, and receiveth the love of the Father, and becometh planted into Christ the second *Adam*, and are chosen in him to bring forth fruit unto the Father, and all their fruit springeth from that ground which is blessed, for they are led by the Spirit of the Father, and such are in the estate of election, who is made Heirs with Christ of the everlasting Inheritance that never fades away: And this we faithfully believe, That mercy is not shewed to the reprobate, nor judgement to them that are chosen of God.

And this is to go abroad in the world that all people may understand what we believe, and what we have received of God; and they that believe this, and walk therein, by the Spirit of the Father shall be saved; but they that believe not, but are disobedient to the truth, shall be condemned because they do not believe. Much more might be written, but in short this is given forth by one that have believed and received the knowledge of these things from God; A Friend unto all people,

Edward Burrough.

THE END.

London, Printed for *Thomas Simmons*, at the *Bull* and *Mouth* neer *Aldersgate*, 1657.